

Library Quarterly

SUMMER 2025

Library Learning Garden p.2

The Possibilities & Perils of AI p.3

Level Up at Your Library p.10



the magazine of the Vernon Area Public Library



Message from the Director

Dear Community:

This summer, I invite you to make the Vernon Area Public Library part of your regular routine. Kick off your summer with a festive intergenerational event at the library on Sunday, June 8. All are invited to enjoy public indoor and outdoor spaces at the library, to enjoy fellowship with other individuals and families, and to borrow materials to begin your quest to "level up" the benefits you enjoy from your library.

Read on to learn about new materials, services and programming, including:

- Screen-free audio players for children
- Outdoor programming, including regular programming for youth in the Library Learning Garden on Fridays from 10-11 a.m. beginning Friday, June 13
- Outdoor concerts for adults and for youth, including a partnership with the Village of Lincolnshire for a "Summer in the Shire" concert on Thursday, June 5
- A year-long deep dive into Artificial Intelligence through programs, interactive exhibits, and recommended reading
- Services for older adults whose preference is home delivery

We, your dedicated library staff, give our best effort to make your experience at the library memorable and positive. If you see room for improvement, have an idea of your own to share, or would like to provide a "shout out" to excellence at Vernon Area Public Library, please email me at director@vapld.info. I welcome your comments, and I would also welcome a conversation!

Vernon Area Public Library

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Library cards, renewals:
224-543-1483

Adult Desk: 224-543-1485,
AdultDesk@VAPLD.info

Youth Desk: 224-543-1486,
YouthDesk@VAPLD.info

Senior Connections: 224-543-1406,
senior@VAPLD.info



New Audio Players for Kids

If you're looking for screen-free tech your kids can operate on their own, the library has new Yoto Mini players and Yoto cards available for check out. There are cards for all ages—from the youngest of children up to junior high.

A Yoto Mini is a portable smart speaker that allows you to play numerous Yoto cards, which have stories, activities, or music on them. You can find Yoto Minis packaged into themed kits, which include a Yoto and set of cards. Or you can check out a Yoto Mini by itself with no cards, or just Yoto cards.

Whether you're looking for music, picture books, early readers, fiction, nonfiction, or junior high fiction, there's something for everyone.

All the Yoto Mini players checked out? No problem! You can still check out the cards and play them by holding



the Yoto card against the back of your smartphone (like card tap) or scanning it through the Yoto app.

To browse the whole collection or to place a hold, visit VAPLD.info/yoto.



Keeping Seniors Connected

Facing mobility or transportation challenges? Our dedicated Senior Connections staff are ready to help. Residents of VAPLD can sign up for the delivery of books, audiobooks, Kindles, handheld magnifiers, text-to-speech pens, and CD players. You can also borrow a Senior Activity Kit, which includes games, sensory therapy items, and conversation starters to spark meaningful discussions.

Library staff will personally deliver your items to your home every three weeks—and pick up your returns. This service is free and available to anyone living in the library service area, whether in a private residence, retirement center, or assisted living facility.

To sign up for the service, call 224-543-1406, email senior@VAPLD.info, or visit VAPLD.info/seniors.



Library Learning Garden Grows

Outdoor Public Space Enhanced for Community Use

Did you know? Behind the library ... past the Electric Vehicle chargers ... past the back of the parking lot ... the sidewalk doesn't end! Follow the path to a delightful outdoor public space: the Library Learning Garden.

The Library Learning Garden grew from a seed first planted in 2013, when the library installed a community vegetable garden as part of that year's "Dig Into Reading!" summer theme.

Today, the space is much more than a vegetable garden. Since 2021, annual upgrades have evolved the area to be a vibrant, park-like community space where people gather, learn, play, and connect with nature.

Shaded picnic tables, a portable restroom, high-speed Wi-Fi, and furniture groupings with "outdoor whiteboards" make the area a comfy spot for everyone, from students and workers in need of remote workspace to families sharing a picnic. A fun chalkboard wall and

StoryWalk™ provide self-guided activities for families. And you never know what treasures you might find in the Little Free Library.

Permanent shade structures, accessible pathways, and an outdoor stage provide a comfortable setting for a full season of outdoor library programs, including drop-in Family Fridays (an hour of drop-in activities and play stations) and concerts for all ages. Look for the tree (🌳) in this catalog for events happening in the garden.

The garden is open to the public during daylight hours in the summer, except when reserved for a library program. For easiest access, park at the back of the main parking lot and follow the signs and new pathway. The garden gate is to the left of the Annex.

For more information, visit VAPLD.info/LearningGarden.



The Possibilities and Perils of AI



Davis Schneiderman,
Professor at Lake Forest College

From chatbots and self-driving cars, to algorithmic trading, to some truly bizarre social media content, AI is rapidly reshaping our world.

But how exactly is our world changing, and what do we need to know to navigate everything from the ethics of everyday purchasing decisions to the complexities of international AI regulations?

For example, an autonomous vehicle must choose between swerving into a pedestrian or crashing and harming its passenger. Who should it prioritize, and who decides the ethics behind its programming when these ethical imperatives conflict? Will people buy cars that align with their specific values?

Separating Fact from Fiction

There's a lot of hype—and a lot of misunderstanding—when it comes to AI. Let's explore some common myths and the reality behind those myths.

Myth: AI will soon become self-aware and take over the world.

Reality: Superintelligent AI, like the kind in *The Terminator*, remains firmly in the realm of speculation. However, there are legitimate concerns about future risks and unintended consequences of AI.

Myth: AI is like a human brain.

Reality: While AI can mimic human intelligence, it doesn't *think* or *feel*—it follows patterns and algorithms without true understanding.

Myth: AI is 100% objective.

Reality: AI reflects human biases. Whether in hiring decisions or facial recognition, AI systems can reinforce inequalities. That's why it's crucial to scrutinize their training data, decision-making processes, and outputs for bias.

Myth: AI is destroying creativity.

Reality: AI is redefining creativity with significant implications. While it presents challenges for artists, AI-generated music, paintings, and stories are already reshaping how we collectively think about originality. And does AI create something new, or just remix human ideas?

For more myth-busting and a deeper dive into AI's impact on jobs, ethics, and what it truly means to be human, join me for "The Possibilities and Perils of AI" program on June 11.

Learn More About Artificial Intelligence

The Possibilities and Perils of AI

Explore the role of humans in shaping the future of artificial intelligence (AI) and the importance of proactive governance and responsible innovation with Professor Davis Schneiderman of Lake Forest College.

Wednesday, June 11, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Book Discussion: *AI 2041: 10 Visions for our Future* by Kai-Fu Lee and Chen Qiufan

This unique book combines ten short stories by an acclaimed sci-fi author, with expert analysis and commentary from a renowned AI researcher. Limited copies for checkout available to Vernon Area cardholders starting June 1.

Thursday, August 7, 7–8:15 pm 🏛️

AI Chatbots

Examine uses and opportunities of AI chatbots, including writing prompts, analyzing the response, and limitations and risks.

Tuesday, August 26, 7–8:30 pm 🏛️

Featured Resources *for adults*



FULL CHICAGO TRIBUNE ACCESS

Read a digital full image replica of the *Chicago Tribune* print edition online, including back issues. Or access the full ChicagoTribune.com website for free.

VAPLD.info/ChiTrib



LEARN A LANGUAGE

Prepare for realistic conversations and everyday communication skills in more than 70 world languages.

Learn a new language anywhere with the Mango app or online.

VAPLD.info/mango



WEISS FINANCIAL RATINGS

Get independent, unbiased financial strength ratings on stocks, mutual funds and exchange traded funds, as well as banks, credit unions, and insurance companies.

VAPLD.info/weiss

Classes & Events *for adults*

Note location with each event (🏠 in person, 📺 online, 🌿 outdoors). Some events offer both in-person and streaming options for attendance. All events are free and open to all. Signup is required unless otherwise noted. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1485.

Outdoor Concerts

Bring a blanket or chairs and enjoy live music performances on the lawn all summer long. Performances take place in the Library Learning Garden, located behind the main library building. Signup is required unless otherwise noted. Walk-ins welcome if space allows.

Summer in the Shire Concert Series: Billy Elton

Take a journey through the catalogs of Billy Joel and Elton John, two of the greatest singers, pianists, and songwriters in pop music history. Part of the "Summer in the Shire" concert series offered in partnership with the Village of Lincolnshire. No signup required.

Thursday, June 5, 7–9 pm 🌿

Sing Down Memory Lane with LJ Slavin

Musician and multi-instrumentalist LJ Slavin performs favorite tunes on the mandolin, harmonica and autoharp, as well as other fascinating instruments.

Wednesday, June 25, 1–2 pm 🌿

Big Sky Acoustic Duo

Combining elements of bluegrass, blues and American roots music, Blue Sky Duo captivates audiences with their soulful music and eclectic approach. This acoustic and vocal duo performs songs from the late 60s through the present day that showcases their stripped back musical style.

Wednesday, July 16, 1–2 pm 🌿



Big Sky Acoustic Duo, July 16



A Revolution of Her Own! Deborah Sampson, June 17

Summer Library Celebration

Celebrate Summer Library Club with fun activities for all ages. Enjoy frozen treats, live music, and a community art project. Pick up materials to be part of this year's Summer Library Club for all ages. Drop in.

Sunday, June 8, 1–3 pm 🌿🏛️

Plant the Library Garden

Learn about gardening basics, then dig in to plant vegetables in the Library Learning Garden.

Tuesday, June 10, 10–11 am 🌿

Get Covered Illinois: Health Coverage for Self-employed and Unemployed

Hear from Illinois Department of Insurance representatives and get answers to your questions about access to coverage for the unemployed and self-employed.

Wednesday, June 11, 6:30–7:30 pm 🗣️

The Possibilities and Perils of AI

Explore the role of humans in shaping the future of artificial intelligence (AI) and the importance of proactive governance and responsible innovation with Professor Davis Schneiderman of Lake Forest College.

Wednesday, June 11, 7–8 pm 🏛️

A Revolution of Her Own! Deborah Sampson

History comes alive in this captivating performance from History At Play™, LLC. Meet Deborah Sampson, a hero of the American Revolutionary War and the first woman to fight in and be honorably discharged from the American Military.

Tuesday, June 17, 1–2 pm 🏛️

Managing Money: A Caregiver's Guide to Finances

Learn how to manage finances in caregiving, including costs, early planning, avoiding fraud, starting financial conversations, and assessing legal needs. Presented by the Alzheimer's Association.

Wednesday, June 18, 10–11:30 am 🗣️

Shakespeare Project of Chicago presents *King Lear*

The professional players of the Shakespeare Project of Chicago present a full, theatrical reading of *King Lear*. Introduction begins at 6:15 pm.

Wednesday, June 18, 6:30–9 pm 🏛️

K9 Reading Buddies Information Seminar

If you have a friendly, well-mannered dog that enjoys making people happy, learn how you can become part of the K9 Reading Buddies of the North Shore, an animal-assisted children's literacy and community outreach program. Please leave your dog at home.

Sunday, June 22, 1:30–2:30 pm 🏛️

Rain Gardens 101

Walk through the basics of engineering a rain garden, the different types, and explore an extensive plant list with horticulturist Heather Prince.

Monday, June 23, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Art Workshop: The Beauty of Moths

Create a beautiful two-toned drawing of a series of moths, both realistic and fanciful in design, with art instructor and illustrator Terri Murphy. No experience necessary. All supplies provided.

Wednesday, July 9, 4:30–6 pm or 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Risking it all: The Signers of the Declaration of Independence

In 1776, signing the Declaration of Independence was an act of treason against Great Britain. Who were these 56 men who risked it all? Historian Joyce Haworth shares their stories: who they were, what role they played, and what consequences they suffered after they signed.

Thursday, July 10, 1–2 pm 🏛️



K9 Reading Buddies Information Seminar, June 22



Book Club Bash

Get fresh ideas for your book group or personal reading from Random House rep John Hastie and "The Good Book Fairy" blogger Lauren Margolin.

Tuesday, July 22, 7–8 pm 🏛️

O'Hare Terminal 5: A Celebration of Chicago Art

Learn about the recently completed art project at O'Hare Terminal 5 that reflects the immense talent and creativity present in Chicago's artists and cultural communities. Presented by Lydia Ross, Senior Strategist with the Chicago Department of Cultural Affairs and Special Events.

Wednesday, July 23, 1–2 pm 🏛️

Improve Your Knife Skills with Chef Susan Maddox

Enhance knife skills with Chef Susan Maddox to improve precision and efficiency, making your food look and taste better.

Thursday, July 24, 7–8 pm 🏛️

Get Your Docs in a Row

Help your famiy avoid chaos and heartache during a crisis. Shire Law Group shares tips about organizing your personal documents before they are needed.

Wednesday, July 30, 6:30–7:30 pm 🏛️ Z

Sustainability Studio: Plastic Alternatives

Learn about plastic alternatives while making homemade deodorant, plastic-free bracelets, produce bags, and shopping totes. This event is held in partnership with Go Green Vernon Hills/Lincolnshire.

Thursday, July 31, 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Concert with Maxwell Street Klezmer Quintet

The Maxwell Street Klezmer Quintet preserves and innovates the traditional performance style of immigrant musicians with classical and jazz sensibilities to create a unique sound that pleases audiences of all ages. This program is part of MOSAIC, a premier series of cultural programs for adults.

Sunday, August 10, 1–2 pm 🏛️

English as a Second Language (ESL) Class Signup

Informational meeting, placement testing, and registration for free English classes at the library. Classes meet two times each week beginning Sept 2/3. For information, call Mundelein District 120 Adult Education at 847-949-2200 ext. 1399.

Returning students: Monday, August 18, 9:15 am–12 pm 🏛️

New students: Wednesday, August 20, 9:15 am–12 pm 🏛️

Rhythms of Life: The Musical Journey of Paul Simon

Take a musical journey through the life of legendary singer-songwriter Paul Simon. Listen to stories and live performances of some of Simon's most memorable songs with music historian Susan Benjamin and Cantor Jay O'Brien.

Tuesday, August 26, 1–2 pm 🏛️

1619: The Journey of a People, The Musical

On August 20, 1619, twenty enslaved Africans arrived in Jamestown, Virginia. This one-man show, featuring educator and actor Ted Williams III, condenses 400 years of history, highlighting struggles, heroes, and the fight for freedom and equality. Co-presented by the Illinois Humanities Road Scholars Speakers Bureau.

Thursday, August 28, 7–8 pm 🏛️



MOSAIC: Maxwell Street Klezmer Quintet, August 10



Open Makerspace

Creativity, Computer, & Technology Classes

Intro to Python

This three-session class gets you started with Python, a high-level, general-purpose programming language. Begin with variables, data types and expressions, then explore operations, functions and decision structures, and finally loops.

Tuesdays, June 3, 10, 17, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Computers & Coffee

Hands-on classes to help you develop comfort using computers.

Tuesdays, 11 am–12:30 pm 🏠

June 10: Settings

August 12: Internet Basics

Maker Class: Summery Patterned Pillow Case

Use Canva to create a colorful, patterned pillow. Designs will be sublimated onto a pillow cover.

Thursday, June 12, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏠

Open Makerspace

Stop by to work on personalized crafts. Supplies will be available for sublimation printing and other projects.

Tuesdays, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏠

June 24, July 29, August 19

Creating with Canva

Learn how to use Canva to create a design that can be printed on a mug using the sublimation printer (available in the Open Makerspace classes).

Thursday, June 26, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Maker Class: Alcohol Ink Painting

Paint on a tile or special paper using alcohol inks to create organic forms and flowers.

Thursday, July 10, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏠

3D Printing

Learn how to use the free design software TinkerCAD to create your own 3D Prints.

Thursdays, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

July 17: Basics

July 24: Design Considerations

July 31: Moving Parts

Restoring Photos with GIMP

Use GIMP—a free open-source alternative to Photoshop—to edit and retouch your digitized photos.

Tuesday, August 5, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Maker Class: Polymer Clay Earrings

Use the library's tools to create unique earrings made out of polymer clay. No experience necessary.

Thursday, August 14, 6:30–8:30 pm 🏠

Gmail Crash Course

Learn how to work efficiently with your Gmail account. This class will introduce you to the customization and organization features available for Gmail.

Thursday, August 21, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

AI Chatbots

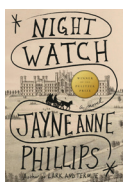
Examine uses and opportunities of AI chatbots, including writing prompts, analyzing the response, and limitations and risks.

Tuesday, August 26, 7–8:30 pm 🏠

Google Drive

Learn to use this popular free cloud storage service to collaborate and improve productivity.

Thursday, August 28, 7–8:30 pm 🏠



Discussions & Meetups

English Language Learners Conversation Group

Practice your English conversation skills with a librarian and other non-native English speakers.

Tuesdays, 11 am–12 pm 🏛️

June 3, June 17, June 24; July 8, July 15, July 22; August 5, August 19, August 26

Spinning Yarns: Knit & Crochet Group

Connect with fellow yarn lovers in a friendly and creative space at the library. Bring your own supplies to work on your project. All levels welcome.

Wednesdays, 10–11 am 🏛️

June 4, July 2, August 6

Book Discussion with Judy Levin

Read and discuss intriguing selections beyond the best sellers.

Thursdays, 10–11:30 am 🏛️

June 12: *Night Watch* by Jayne Anne Phillips

July 10: *Beautyland* by Marie-Helene Bertino

Writers' Support Group

Share work, meet fellow writers, get constructive feedback, and discuss the publishing business in this informal group. All writers welcome.

Thursdays, 6:30–8:30 pm 🌐

June 12, July 10, August 14

Thirsty Thursdays: Books on Tap

In your 20s or 30s and thirsting for intelligent conversation with excellent people? Meet for a book discussion at the Chatterbox of Long Grove with excellent people over adult beverages and delicious food.

Thursdays, 6–8 pm 🏛️ The Chatter Box, Long Grove

June 19, July 17, August 21

Reel Talk Movie Discussion

Use your library card to check out or stream the film in advance, then log in to share your thoughts.

Fridays, 3:30–4:30 pm 🌐

June 20: *Doubt* (PG-13)

July 18: *Logan Lucky* (PG-13)

August 15: *Arrival* (PG-13)

Off the Hook: Knit & Crochet Group

Craft in the company of other crafters, online. Work on your own project, share ideas, and socialize. All skill levels welcome.

Tuesdays, 7–8:30 pm 🌐

June 24, July 22, August 26

World Language Movie Discussion

Stream or borrow the movie with your library card, then discuss with fellow international cinema fans.

Wednesdays, 7–8 pm 🌐

June 25: *The Blue Caftan*

August 20: *Perfect Days* (PG)

Memory Café

Connect monthly with other individuals with memory loss and their caregivers for activities and socialization in a safe, supportive environment.

Thursdays, 2–3 pm 🏛️ Alcott Center, Buffalo Grove

June 26, July 24, August 28

Games for Grown-ups

Play tabletop games together at the library or online. Open to all skill levels.

Sundays, 12:30–4:30 pm 🏛️ 🌐

June 29, July 20, August 3, August 17

Choose Your Own Adventure: A Book Club

Silently read your own book or audiobook for an hour, then choose to continue reading or chat with others. Some snacks will be provided, or bring your own.

Monday, July 7, 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Wednesday, August 20, 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Novel Night Book Discussion

Read and discuss *The Same Bright Stars* by Ethan Joella.

Tuesday, July 15, 7–8:15 pm 🏛️

AI Book Discussion: *AI 2041: 10 Visions for our Future* by Kai-Fu Lee and Chen Qiufan

This unique book combines ten short stories by an acclaimed sci-fi author, with expert analysis and commentary from a renowned AI researcher. Limited copies for checkout available to Vernon Area cardholders starting June 1.

Thursday, August 7, 7–8:15 pm 🏛️

Great Decisions Discussion Group

Discuss critical global issues from the Foreign Policy Association's *Great Decisions* book with facilitator Gary Midkiff.

In-Person: Wednesday, August 6, 1–2:30 pm 🏛️

Online: Friday, August 8, 1–2:30 pm 🌐

LIBRARIAN PICKS

The Book Lover's Reading List



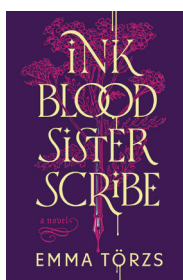
Here at the library, we love being part of such a wonderful community of readers. Whether it's the magic of discovering a new author or the comfort that comes with rereading a timeless favorite, there's nothing quite like a good book. Celebrate the joy of reading with these books about books, and share it with the bibliophiles in your life!

Fantastical Fiction



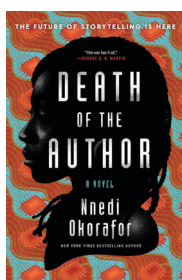
The In-Between Bookstore

Edward Underhill



Ink Blood Sister Scribe

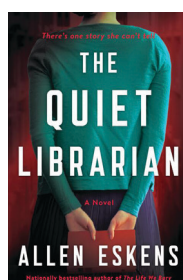
Emma Törzs



Death of the Author

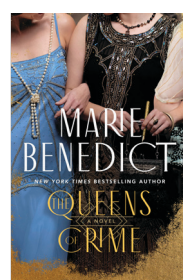
Nnedi Okorafor

Thrilling Tales



The Quiet Librarian

Allen Eskens



The Queens of Crime

Marie Benedict



Book and Dagger

Elyse Graham

Feel-Good Stories



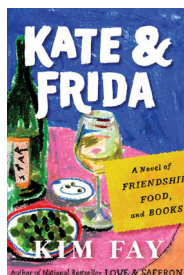
What You Are Looking For Is in the Library

Michiko Aoyama



The Banned Bookshop of Maggie Banks

Shauna Robinson



Kate & Frida

Kim Fay

Historical Reads



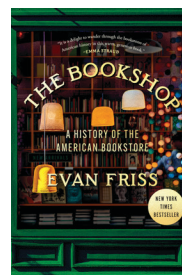
The Wartime Book Club

Kate Thompson



The Boxcar Librarian

Brianna Labuskes



The Bookshop

Evan Friss

LEVEL UP!

SUMMER LIBRARY CLUB 2025

June 1–July 31

Get ready to press start on an epic summer of reading! **Level Up** at your library with this year's Summer Library Club for all ages. From June 1 through July 31, complete activities to earn rewards. Along the way, unlock new reading favorites, gain experience with a new skill, and discover hidden treasures available with your library card.

The program is fun and flexible. Just pick up a checklist and complete activities you choose at your own pace. The checklist provides a small amount of structure, some friendly encouragement, and ideas for things to do or try — what you do is up to you. Earn a reward after completing half the activities; complete all activities for a finisher reward and raffle entry. Prizes vary by age group. Visit VAPLD.info/summer for details.

"We are thrilled to support the summer reading program," shared sponsor Lynette Duncan, Director at Child First Academy in Lincolnshire. "We believe developing a love for reading is the key to unlocking a

child's full potential! Child First Academy is committed to maximizing every learning opportunity for our youngest kiddos. What greater gift can we offer society than to teach our children to read?"

Ready, player? Let's Level Up together this summer! Stop by the library starting June 1 to pick up your checklist and begin your quest!



T-Shirts for Kids Return

Summer Library Club t-shirts are back for a bonus round! The first 1000 children who sign up for Summer Reading Club will receive a Level Up t-shirt, a gift from the Foundation for the Vernon Area Public Library District, Child First Academy, and other generous community sponsors. For children through grade 5. Ongoing while supplies last, beginning Sunday, June 1.

THANK YOU TO SUMMER LIBRARY CLUB SPONSORS



*Foundation for the Vernon Area Public Library
Child First Academy*



Tamarak Day Camp and Country School



*hoopla • Culver's of Lincolnshire • Woodman's Markets • Zizzo Auto Body
Graber and Gyllenhaal Orthodontics • Play Hard Hoops • Jawz Orthodontics*



**Cradles
toCrayons**
END CLOTHING INSECURITY



New This Year: Community Collection

We are giving back to our community as part of this year's Summer Library Club by collecting new socks and pajamas for children of all ages which will be donated to Cradles to Crayons.

Drop your donations in the green warp pipe near the library's front entrance. **Together let's reach our goal of collecting 1,000 items.**

Summer Library Celebration All ages

Power up your summer with frozen treats from Culver's (while supplies last), live music from the Old Town School of Folk Music, a community art project, and a giant bubble show in the Library Learning Garden. This free, drop-in event requires no registration and is the perfect way to launch your summer reading adventure.

Sunday, June 8, 1–3 pm  

Classes & Events *for teens*

Note location with each event (🏠 indoors, 🌿 outdoors). All events are free and open to all. Signup is required, starting 30 days in advance, unless otherwise noted. Sign up at [VAPLD.info/calendar](https://vapl.org/info/calendar) or call 224-543-1486.

Drop-In Art GRADES K & UP

Drop in for coloring, a sticker mosaic, and friendship bracelets.

Wednesday, June 4, 4–7 pm 🏠

Summer Library Celebration ALL AGES

Celebrate Summer Library Club with fun activities for all ages. Sign up for Summer Library Club, then enjoy frozen treats, live music, a community art project, and a giant bubble show. Drop in.

Sunday, June 8, 1–3 pm 🏠 🌿

Rebecca Caudill Award Book Discussion GRADES 6–8

Discuss one of the 2026 award contenders. Pick up a copy of the book (yours to keep) at the Youth Desk after registering.

Mondays, 7–8 pm 🏠

June 9: *What Happened to Rachel Riley* by Claire Swinarski

August 13: *Final Season* by Tim Green

Art Workshop: Watercolor Galaxy GRADES 6–12

Learn watercolor techniques and then use your new skills to paint a galaxy. Presented by local artist Audrey Ra of Audrey Ra Design.

Tuesday, June 10, 4:30–5:45 pm 🌿

Off the Page: A Teen Book Club GRADES 8–12

Participants get a copy of the book to keep and custard (our treat!).

Mondays, 7–8:15 pm 🏠 Culver's Lincolnshire

June 16: *The Ballad of Songbirds and Snakes* by Suzanne Collins

July 21: *The Firekeeper's Daughter* by Angeline Boulley

Coding with Ozobot GRADES 6–8

Learn the basics of coding by programming an Ozobot robot to navigate through tasks using screen-less color codes.

Tuesday, June 17, 7–8:15 pm 🏠

Drop-In Art: Juneteenth ALL AGES

Celebrate and learn about Juneteenth with coloring and other craft activities.

Thursday, June 19, 1–7 pm 🏠

Chess Challenge Meetup GRADES 5–8

Challenge a friend to a game of chess! Test your knowledge, sharpen your skills, and meet new friends.

Tuesday, June 24, 2:30–3:45 pm 🌿



Chess Challenge Meetup, June 24

Game On: Perler Bead Creations GRADES 6–12

Craft your favorite gaming characters using colorful beads, and bring your gaming world to life.

Monday, June 30, 6:30–8 pm 🏠

Board Game Design Workshop GRADES 6–12

Nothing is boring about this game. Why? Because you designed it! Use your creativity to make your own board game to play with family and friends.

Tuesday, July 8, 6–7 pm 🏠

3D Printing: Fidget Stars GRADES 6–12

Create your own 3D-printed fidget star in TinkerCAD.

Wednesday, July 16, 4:30–5:30 pm or 7–8 pm 🏠

Teen Summer Library Club Finale GRADES 6–12

Level up with a Super Smash Brothers Tournament and giant games.

Monday, July 28, 7–8 pm 🏠

Sustainability Studio: Plastic Alternatives TEENS & ADULTS

Learn about plastic alternatives while making homemade deodorant, plastic-free bracelets, produce bags, and shopping totes. This event is held in partnership with Go Green Vernon Hills/Lincolnshire.

Thursday, July 31, 6:30–8 pm 🏠

Teen Service Club GRADES 7–12

Meet new people, participate in various community-service projects, and earn volunteer service hours. No library card required; no application or training; volunteer when it fits your schedule.

Tuesday, August 12, 7–8 pm 🏠

Featured Resources *for elementary-aged kids*



KEEP LEARNING THIS SUMMER

Avoid the summer slump by keeping up with your learning. Download and print coloring pages and activity packets for pre-K through grade 8 from Scholastic Teachables.

VAPLD.info/teachables



READ IN YOUR NATIVE LANGUAGE

Access storybooks in languages other than English (LOTE). Choose from thousands of audio-picture books in 70+ languages, together with English translations from LOTE4Kids.

VAPLD.info/LOTE



SUMMER READING LISTS

Wondering about your school's assigned summer reading? Find lists for school districts 96, 102, and 103 on the wall near the Award Books by the end of May.

Classes & Events *for elementary-aged kids*

Note location with each event (🏠 indoors, 🌿 outdoors). All events are free and open to all. Signup is required, starting 30 days in advance, unless otherwise noted. Sign up at VAPLD.info/calendar or call 224-543-1486.

Drop-In Art **GRADES K & UP**

Drop in for coloring, a sticker mosaic, and friendship bracelets. Children under 10 years old must be accompanied by an adult.

Wednesday, June 4, 4–7 pm 🏠

Summer Library Celebration **ALL AGES**

Celebrate Summer Library Club with fun activities for all ages. Enjoy frozen treats, live music, a community art project, and a giant bubble show. Sign up for Summer Library Club and get a free t-shirt (for grades 5 & younger) thanks to the Foundation for the Vernon Area Public Library District. Drop in.

Sunday, June 8, 1–3 pm 🏠🌿

Plant the Garden **GRADES K–5**

Learn about gardening basics, then dig in to plant vegetables in the Library Learning Garden.

Tuesday, June 10, 11:30 am–12:30 pm 🌿

Art in the Garden with Miss Jane **GRADES K–5**

Paint a tropical flamingo scene with Miss Jane in the Library Learning Garden.

Wednesday, June 11 🌿

Grades K-2: 1–2 pm

Grades 3-5: 3–4 pm

Take & Make Craft Kits **ALL AGES**

Stop by the library each month for instructions and supplies to make a craft. Available while supplies last beginning:

June 13: Paper Tube Pollinators

July 11: Sail Away

August 8: Shooting Stars

Books & Badges: Stories with the Police **THRU GRADE 5**

Stories and summer safety tips with law enforcement officers from Lincolnshire and Buffalo Grove – plus a peek inside their squad cars and trucks!

Friday, June 13, 10–11 am 🌿





Miss Katie Sings, June 27

Family Concerts ALL AGES

Bring the whole family and a blanket to sit on while enjoying an outdoor concert on the lawn in the Library Learning Garden. Pack a lunch to enjoy in the garden after the show.

Saturdays, 11–11:45 am 🌿
 June 14: Sarah Jayne Lane
 July 12: Wendy & DB
 July 26: Gincy
 August 23: Justin Roberts

Fridays, 10–10:45 am 🌿
 June 27: Miss Katie Sings
 July 18: Laura Doherty

Coding with Ozobot GRADE 3–5

Learn the basics of coding by programming an Ozobot robot to navigate through tasks using screen-less color codes.

Tuesday, June 17, 4:30–5:45 pm 🏛️

Container Gardens GRADES K–2

Learn about the importance of plants and their pollinators while creating your own container garden to take home.

Wednesday, June 18, 3–3:30 pm 🌿

Drop-In Art: Juneteenth ALL AGES

Celebrate and learn about Juneteenth with coloring and other craft activities.

Thursday, June 19, 1–7 pm 🏛️

Family Foam Party THRU GRADE 5

Kick off a fun Family Friday by dancing and playing in billions of tiny bubbles at the library's foam party. Dress to get wet and bring a towel.

Friday, June 20, 10–11 am 🌿

Drumming in the Garden GRADES K–5

Dressed in her native regalia, Ojibwa author and 2023–24 Illinois Road Scholar Kim Sigafus brings her interactive presentation on Native culture and music to the library garden. Learn a song and sing along while playing native instruments like the drum, rain stick, or jingles. A question and answer period will follow.

Saturday, June 21, 11–11:45 am 🌿

STEM Sampler GRADES K–2

Sample various scientific disciplines as you work your way through different fun STEM stations together.

Monday, June 23, 2–2:45 pm 🏛️

Chess Challenge Meetup GRADES 2–4

Challenge a friend to a game of chess! Test your knowledge, sharpen your skills, and meet new friends.

Tuesday, June 24, 1–2 pm 🌿

Art Workshop: 3-Color Pet Print GRADES 3–5

Bring in a photocopy picture of a pet, or use one of ours to make a unique portrait using print techniques with various colors. Led by artist and illustrator Terri Murphy.

Wednesday, June 25, 4:30–6 pm or 6:30–8 pm 🏛️

Frog Lady & Friends in the Garden GRADES K–5

A library favorite! Get up close with The Frog Lady's favorite amphibians and reptiles while learning about these incredible creatures.

Tuesday, July 1, 4:30–5:30 pm 🌿

Art Workshop: Ebru Marble Painting GRADES K-5

Learn the traditional Turkish art of marble painting that involves creating colorful patterns on water and transferring them to paper. No experience necessary. All supplies provided.

Monday, July 7, 2–3 pm or 4–5 pm 🌿

Board Game Design Workshop GRADES 3-5

Nothing is boring about this game. Why? Because you designed it! Use your creativity to make your own board game to play with family and friends.

Tuesday, July 8, 4:30–5:30 pm 🏠

Bluestem Award Book Discussion GRADES 3-5

This parent and child book group will discuss *The Guardian Test* (Legends of Lotus Island series) by Christina Soontornvat. Pick up a copy of the book (yours to keep) at the Youth Desk.

Monday, July 14, 7–8 pm 🏠

Monarch Award Family Book Discussion GRADES K-2

As a group, we will read *We Are Definitely Human* by X. Fang together, share our thoughts, and enjoy a related craft.

Tuesday, July 15, 6:30–7:15 pm 🏠

Family Friday THRU GRADE 5

Bring the whole family for outdoor activities in the Library Learning Garden to spend time doing activities that promote socialization, problem solving, sensory experiences, and imaginative play. In case of bad weather, the fun moves inside the main library.

Fridays, 10–11 am 🌿

July 11, 25; August 1, 8

3D Printing: Fidget Stars GRADES 3-5

Create your own 3D-printed fidget star in TinkerCAD.

Wednesday, July 23, 4:30–5:30 pm or 7–8 pm 🏠

Lego Master Builders GRADES K-5

Work through a challenge, then let your imagination run wild during free building time.

Wednesday, July 30, 1–2 pm or 3–4 pm 🏠

Passport to the World GRADES K-5

Calling all explorers! Earn stamps in your passport as you learn about Belize, Iceland, South Korea, and Turkey while creating crafts representative of each country.

Monday, August 4 🏠

Grades K-2: 4:30–5:45 pm

Grades 3-5: 7–8:15 pm

Lego Robotics: Summer Soccer Showdown GRADES K-5

Build and program any of the Lego Education WeDo soccer models and test them to see who can score a goal.

Monday, August 11 🏠

Grades K-2: 4:30–5:30 pm

Grades 3-5: 7–8 pm



Ebru Marble Painting, July 7



Family Friday activities

Classes & Events *for early childhood*

Drop In

It's easier than ever to make storytime part of your family's weekly routine. Drop in for the session that's right for your child's age. Claim an entry ticket when you arrive, then join the fun! Free and open to all. Note location with each event (🏠 indoors, 🌳 outdoors).

Baby Rhyme Storytime 0-14 MONTHS

Grow your baby's brain with songs, rhymes and books with Miss Kelsey. Then connect with neighbors while your baby plays with educational toys and socializes with others.

Wednesdays, 9:30–10:15 am 🏠

June 4, 11, 18; July 9, 16, 23; August 6, 13, 20

Wiggling Ones 12-24 MONTHS

Add 30 minutes of joy to your week. Giggle, sing, and play along with your little one, other families, and Miss Julia.

Tuesdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏠

June 3, 10, 17; July 8, 15, 22; August 5, 12, 19

Together 2s & 3s 2-3 YEARS

Share stories and learn sign language with Miss Sarah. Activities center around a letter of the day.

Mondays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏠

June 2, 9, 16; July 14, 21, 28; August 11, 18, 25

Preschool Storytime 3-5 YEARS

Get ready for school with Miss Emily by practicing the language, listening and pre-reading skills needed for kindergarten. Children attend without an adult.

Thursdays, 9:30–10 am or 10:30–11 am 🏠

June 5, 12, 19; July 3, 10, 17; August 7, 14, 21

Starry Night Storytime AGES 0-6

Get out those last few wiggles during an evening storytime with Miss Julia.

Thursdays, 6–6:30 pm 🏠

June 26, July 17, August 7

Summer Library Celebration ALL AGES

Celebrate Summer Library Club with fun activities for all ages. Enjoy frozen treats from Culvers (while supplies last), live music, a community art project, and a giant bubble show. Sign up for Summer Library Club and get a free t-shirt (for grades 5 & younger) thanks to the Foundation for the Vernon Area Public Library District. Drop in.

Sunday, June 8, 1–3 pm 🌳 🏠

Family Friday THRU GRADE 5

Bring the whole family for outdoor activities in the Library Learning Garden to spend time doing activities that promote socialization, problem solving, sensory experiences, and imaginative play. In case of bad weather, the fun moves inside the main library.

Fridays, 10–11 am

July 11, 25; August 1, 8 🌳

Drop-In Art: Juneteenth ALL AGES

Celebrate and learn about Juneteenth with coloring and other craft activities.

Thursday, June 19, 1–7 pm 🏠



Sign Up in Advance

Free and open to all. For these storytimes and events, sign up 30 days in advance at VAPLD.info/calendar, by telephone at 224-543-1486 or at any public service desk in the library. Note location with each event (🏠 indoors, 🌿 outdoors).

Sun & Fun Storytime AGES 0-6

Enjoy tunes, dancing, rhymes, and read-alouds at this outdoor storytime. Signup is recommended for program reminders and any weather-related updates. Walk-ins welcome.

10-10:30 am 🌿

Saturday, June 7, July 19, August 9

Monday, June 23

Wednesday, July 30

Books & Badges: Stories with the Police THRU GRADE 5

Stories and summer safety tips with law enforcement officers from Lincolnshire and Buffalo Grove – plus a peek inside their squad cars and trucks!

Friday, June 13, 10-11 am 🌿

Family Concerts ALL AGES

Bring the whole family and a blanket to sit on while enjoying an outdoor concert on the lawn in the Library Learning Garden. Bring a lunch to enjoy in the garden after the show.

Saturdays, 11-11:45 am 🌿

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August 23: Justin Roberts

Fridays, 10-10:45 am 🌿

June 27: Miss Katie Sings

July 18: Laura Doherty

Family Foam Party THRU GRADE 5

Kick off a fun Family Friday by dancing and playing in billions of tiny bubbles at the library's foam party. Dress to get wet and bring a towel.

Friday, June 20, 10-11 am 🌿

Sunshine Squad AGES 0-6

Stories and activities focused on social-emotional development and cultural appreciation make the world a kinder, sunnier place for everyone.

10-10:45 am 🏠

Wednesday, June 25: Worries Are Not Forever

Saturday, August 2: Welcome Immigrants

Mini Math Magicians AGES 3-5

Explore math concepts through books, games and activities with preschool pro Miss Emily.

Thursdays, 10-10:30 am 🏠

June 26, July 24

Bilingual Storytime: Mandarin AGES 0-6

Read stories and sing songs in Mandarin and English with Miss Laura.

Thursday, July 31, 10-10:30 am 🏠



Sun & Fun Storytime

Vernon Area Public Library
300 Olde Half Day Rd.
Lincolnshire, IL 60069-2901

Connect

VAPLD.info

Main: 847-634-3650

App: Look for Vernon Area Public Library in your device's App Store

Socials: Follow @vernonlibrary for updates and fun content



Get a Library Card

Free and available to all district residents. Apply online at VAPLD.info/card or visit.

Returns

Return materials 24/7 in front of the library or at these drop boxes:
VAPLD.info/bookdrops

Open

Monday–Thursday 9 am – 9 pm
Friday–Saturday 9 am – 5 pm
Sunday 10 am – 5 pm

"Mask required" self-service access is available daily during the 30 minutes before official public hours for anyone who needs or prefers an extra measure of protection.

Closed

May 25–26
July 3, closes at 5 pm
July 4
August 31

*This magazine is printed on recycled paper
made of 30% post-consumer waste.*



Community Events

Connect with us at these summer events for information, activities, and giveaways.

Buffalo Grove Pride Picnic

Sunday, June 1, 11:30 am–2:30 pm
🌳 Mike Rylko Park

Buffalo Grove Farmers Market

Sunday, July 27, 8 am–12:30 pm
🌳 Mike Rylko Park

Buffalo Grove National Night Out

Tuesday, August 5, 5:30–7:30 pm
🌳 Willow Stream Park